U.S. Department of Justice



United States Attorney District of New Hampshire

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MEDIA RELEASE For Immediate Release March 19, 2003 Thomas P. Colantuono
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"OPERATION BEANTOWN"

MANCHESTER MAN SENTENCED ON FEDERAL CRACK COCAINE DISTRIBUTION CHARGES

Re: United States v. Tarrell Burris

CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE: United States Attorney Tom Colantuono, N.H. State Police Colonel Gary Sloper, and Manchester Police Chief Mark Driscoll announced that **TARRELL BURRIS**, date of birth of November 8, 1979, of Manchester, NH was sentenced on March 19, 2003, to 30 months imprisonment on federal crack cocaine distribution charges.

On December 11, 2002, BURRIS entered a guilty plea before U.S. District Judge Paul J. Barbadoro to an information alleging that he distributed cocaine base, also known as "crack cocaine," in Manchester on August 15, 2002. BURRIS was arrested by Manchester and New Hampshire State Police officers on October 15, 2002, along with ten others, as part of their joint "Operation Beantown" investigation, so named because of its focus on alleged Boston-based drug traffickers that had relocated to Manchester.

U.S. Attorney Colantuono stated, "This case demonstrates our Office's commitment to aggressively prosecuting drug traffickers, including the street-level crack dealers operating in Manchester and New Hampshire's other larger cities. Operation Beantown is a prime example of the effectiveness of cooperative efforts between federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies in combating the disastrous impact of crack cocaine on our urban neighborhoods and their residents. This Office will continue to commit federal resources to these efforts."

The conviction resulted from a joint investigation conducted by the Manchester Police Department's Special Investigations Unit and the N.H. State Police Narcotics Investigation Unit. The prosecution is being handled by Assistant United States Attorney Joseph N. Laplante, the Lead Attorney for the District of New Hampshire in the New England Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force ("New England OCDETF").